IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

providing said speech to a plurality of speech decoders, each of said decoders using a speaker model corresponding to a different one of said speakers and generating a confidence score for each decoded output; ~~and~~

selecting a decoded output based on said confidence score; and

presenting said decoded output as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of aligning each of said decoded outputs in time.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of said speech decoders are on a remote server.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of presenting said selected decoded output to a user.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of manually selecting an alternate decoded output if said assigned output is incorrect.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of adapting said selecting step based on said manual selection.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of presenting several decoded outputs to a user with an indication of said corresponding confidence score.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of presenting said decoded output as a string of words if said corresponding confidence score exceeds a certain threshold and as a string of phones if said corresponding confidence score is below a certain threshold.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting step further comprises the step of determining if a decoded output includes an isolated word from a second speaker in a string of words from a first speaker.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

providing said speech to a speaker independent speech recognition system and a speaker specific speech recognition system substantially simultaneously; ~~and~~

decoding said speech using said speaker independent speech recognition system whenever the identity of the current speaker is unknown; and

presenting said decoded speech as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said decoding step continues until a speaker identification system identifies an unknown speaker.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein one or more of said speaker independent speech recognition system and said speaker specific speech recognition system are on a remote server.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of presenting said selected decoded output to a user.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

providing said speech to a speaker independent speech recognition system and a speaker specific speech recognition system substantially simultaneously; ~~and~~

decoding said speech using said speaker specific speech recognition system with a speaker model for an identified speaker until there is a speaker change; and

presenting said decoded speech as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of decoding said speech using a speaker independent speech recognition system until the identity of a speaker is determined and the appropriate speaker model is loaded.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein one or more of said speaker independent speech recognition system and said speaker specific speech recognition system are on a remote server.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of presenting said selected decoded output to a user.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

a memory that stores computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to implement said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code configured to:

provide said speech to a plurality of speech decoders, each of said decoders using a speaker model corresponding to a different one of said speakers and generating a confidence score for each decoded output; ~~and~~

select a decoded output having a highest confidence score; and

present said decoded output as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said processor is further configured to align each of said decoded outputs in time.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein one or more of said speech decoders are on a remote server.

22. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said processor is further configured to present said selected decoded output to a user.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

a memory that stores computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to implement said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code configured to:

provide said speech to a speaker independent speech recognition system and a speaker specific speech recognition system substantially simultaneously; ~~and~~

decode said speech using said speaker independent speech recognition system whenever the identity of the current speaker is unknown; and

present said decoded speech as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein said processor performs said decoding until a speaker identification system identifies an unknown speaker.

25. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein one or more of said speaker independent speech recognition system and said speaker specific speech recognition system are on a remote server.

26. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein said processor is further configured to present said selected decoded output to a user.

27. (Currently Amended) A system for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

a memory that stores computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to implement said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code configured to:

provide said speech to a speaker independent speech recognition system and a speaker specific speech recognition system substantially simultaneously; ~~and~~

decode said speech using said speaker specific speech recognition system with a speaker model for an identified speaker until there is a speaker change; and

present said decoded speech as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein said processor is further configured to decode said speech using a speaker independent speech recognition system until the identity of a speaker is determined and the appropriate speaker model is loaded.

29. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein one or more of said speaker independent speech recognition system and said speaker specific speech recognition system are on a remote server.

30. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein said processor is further configured to present said selected decoded output to a user.

31. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to provide said speech to a plurality of speech decoders, each of said decoders using a speaker model corresponding to a different one of said speakers and generating a confidence score for each decoded output; ~~and~~

a step to select a decoded output having a highest confidence score; and

a step to present said decoded output as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

32. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to provide said speech to a speaker independent speech recognition system and a speaker specific speech recognition system substantially simultaneously; ~~and~~

a step to decode said speech using said speaker independent speech recognition system whenever the identity of the current speaker is unknown; and

a step to present said decoded speech as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.

33. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for transcribing speech of a plurality of speakers, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to provide said speech to a speaker independent speech recognition system and a speaker specific speech recognition system substantially simultaneously; ~~and~~

a step to decode said speech using said speaker specific speech recognition system with a speaker model for an identified speaker until there is a speaker change; and

a step to present said decoded speech as a string of words for the decoded output having the highest confidence score and as phones or syllables for all other decoded outputs.